



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry

180 Canfield Street
Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

1252

File Code: 3400
Date: July 18, 2005

Ms. Jil Swearingen
USDI National Park Service
Center for Urban Ecology
4598 Mac Arthur Boulevard, NW
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Jil:

On June 8-14 2005, I conducted aerial surveys for gypsy moth-caused tree defoliation at 33 USDI Park Service sites in and around Washington, DC. The surveyed sites are listed below.

Anacostia Park	Great Falls (south end of C&O Canal)
Barnard Hill Park	Greenbelt Park
Battery Kemble Park	Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Baltimore Washington Parkway (south of MD RT 175)	Little Forest Park
Dumbarton Oaks Park	Melvin Hazen Park
Ft. Bunker Hill Park	Meridian Hill Park
Ft. Chaplin Park	Montrose Park
Fort Davis Park	Oxon Hill Farm
Ft. Dupont Park	Oxon Run Parkway
Ft. Duncan	Piscataway Park
Ft. Foote Park	Potomac Parkway
Ft Mahan Park	Rock Creek Park
Ft. Slocum Park	Shepherd Parkway
Ft. Stanton Park	Soapstone Valley Park
Ft. Totten Park	Suitland Parkway
Ft. Washington Park	Whitehaven Parkway
Glover Archbold Park	

Defoliation was detected in the National Capital Parks—East at Fort Chaplin Park, Fort Davis Park, Fort Dupont Park and Fort Stanton Park. Approximately 5.6 acres of heavy defoliation (61-100 percent) were detected on NPS lands while 6.4 acres of heavy defoliation were detected on adjacent land (Figure 1). Ground-truthing revealed that gypsy moths did not cause the defoliation. Fall cankerworm, *Alsophila pometaria*, was the likely cause of defoliation.

However, if you anticipate requesting either financial or technical assistance for gypsy moth control in 2006, please contact Brad Onken (304) 285-1546 or me (304) 285-1555 before August 31, 2005.



Please contact me at the above number if you have any questions regarding the aerial surveys or aerial survey letter.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Whiteman

RODNEY L. WHITEMAN

Forester

Forest Health Protection

Cc: Ainsley Caldwell, DC Forester

Robert Tichenor, MDA

Sally Hughes, MDA

Betsie Handley, MDA

Figure 1. -- Results of the aerial detection survey conducted at the National Capital Regional Parks, June 8, 2005

